

CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

1. A latch and release mechanism for a drawer slide comprising, in combination;
 - a first slide channel;
 - a second slide channel slidably receiving the first channel for movement longitudinally between a projected, open position and a retracted position;
 - a first cantilever spring member mounted on the first channel and including a first end attached to the first channel and a second free end spaced from the channel;
 - a stop lug on the second channel projecting into a pathway of the free end of the first spring for engagement by the first spring free end upon movement of the first channel to the open position; and
 - a release lever slidably mounted on the first channel and having a first manual activation outer end and a second inner spring engaging end, said release lever slidable against the first spring to move the spring out of said pathway.
2. The mechanism of Claim 1 including a second cantilever spring mounted on the first channel, said second spring having a free end projecting into the pathway for engaging a stop lug and limiting the sliding movement of the first slide toward the open position.
3. The mechanism of Claim 1 further including an auxiliary release member mounted on the second channel for engaging the first cantilever spring to move the first spring from the pathway.

4. The mechanism of Claim 2 further including an auxiliary release member mounted on the second channel for simultaneously engaging the first and second springs to move said springs from the pathway.

5. The mechanism according to Claim 1 wherein the first and second latch levers are flexible thin metallic elements.

6. The mechanism according to Claim 1 wherein the auxiliary latch actuator is also a thin metallic element attached to the intermediate member.

7. The mechanism according to Claim 2 wherein both springs are in locked or interfering mode with said lug when in an unactuated state.

8. The mechanism according to Claim 1 wherein the release lever is reset to its ready position when the slide assembly is closed.

9. The mechanism according to Claim 1 wherein the second spring, controlling disconnect of the slide assembly, is not substantially moved toward the unlocked position when the first spring is released.